- 2 A. May I review that sir?
- Q. Absolutely. May I approach, Your Honor?
- 4 THE COURT: You may.
- 5 A. Thank you.
- 6 Q. And because you were concerned about that,
- 7 you instructed Mr. Montoya to tell him, right, what
- 8 the gun was for?
- 9 A. In no uncertain terms, yes.
- 10 Q. Now, I want to move away from the Marcantel
- 11 allegations to the Julian Romero. We're going to go
- 12 backwards in time?
- 13 A. Okay.
- 14 Q. Now, you recall taking Mr. Romero to the
- 15 Old Main to take a tour?
- 16 A. A tour, yes, I asked him to do a record not
- 17 guilty which he described his history in the SNM and
- 18 how the riot started. He turned 21 the first night
- 19 of the riot and I asked him to walk me around and
- 20 explain that and the history of the SNM.
- Q. And that was last March 31, 2017?
- 22 A. That sounds right.
- Q. And even though you spent the better part
- 24 of probably half a day with him, you didn't produce a
- 25 302 on that?

- 1 A. I don't think that's correct.
- Q. Okay and I could be wrong?
- 3 A. I think I did.
- 4 Q. But during that trip, you told Mr. Romero
- 5 that Mr. Baca didn't want him killed?
- 6 A. Yes, that's my understanding.
- 7 Q. Right. And you told Mr. Baca that Lupe
- 8 Urquizo wanted Julian Romero killed?
- 9 A. I haven't talked to Mr. Baca in a while.
- 10 Q. You told Mr. Romero pardon me?
- 11 A. Mr. Romero, yes.
- 12 Q. So on that trip, on the way home you told
- 13 Mr. Romero Lupe Urquizo was the one that wanted you
- 14 dead?
- 15 A. And some other guys, but that Baca just
- 16 wanted him beat up, you're right.
- 17 Q. And you said and Mario Rodriguez wanted him
- 18 dead?
- 19 A. I don't know if I said that, but because
- 20 Mario left. Mario was down there, but I think he got
- 21 transferred before the actual assault.
- Q. We can play the recording if you like.

- A. I don't think you've ever lied to me, Mr.
- 24 Lowry. If you're representing that that's what I
- 25 said --

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- 1 Q. I try not to.
- 2 A. I believe you.
- 3 THE COURT: Mr. Lowry, can we talk to the
- 4 jurors and see when they want to take their lunch
- 5 break. Do y'all want to do like we did on Friday and
- 6 take about a 15 minute break and go another hour and
- 7 a half and take a late lunch, everybody in agreement
- 8 with that. Looks like everybody hands going up does.
- 9 that work not counsel and the parties.
- 10 All right. Why don't we take a 15 minute
- 11 break. And the jury did come in a little bit later,
- 12 so we'll do that. All rise (.(The jury left the
- 13 courtroom.)
- 14 THE COURT: All right we'll be in recess
- 15 for about 15 minutes.
- 16 (The Court stood in recess.)
- 17 THE COURT: All right. Let's go on the
- 18 record. While Ms. Standridge is bringing the jury
- 19 in, let me continue to talk a little bit about this
- 20 count 8. I know it's Count 3, I think, in our

- 21 current drafting. But on Friday the Court orally
- 22 denied Mr. Baca's motion for a judgment of acquittal
- 23 under Rule 29 of the Federal Rules of Criminal
- 24 Procedure as to Count 8, or Count 3 now, in our
- 25 current instructions. It's the conspiracy to commit

- 1 assault resulting in serious bodily injury. But I
- 2 understood Mr. Baca to be arguing that the
- 3 uncontroverted evidence indicated that Mr. Romero did
- 4 not actually suffer a serious bodily injury. And
- 5 what the United States replied is that the Romero
- 6 conspirators intended to inflict serious bodily
- 7 injury to Mr. Romero, or perhaps to kill him. And
- 8 then the Court denied Mr. Baca's motion, reasoning
- 9 that the intent of the conspirators and not the
- 10 result of actual assault provides the relevant
- 11 inquiry.
- 12 Now, here is my concern is that committing
- 13 and conspiring to commit assault with intent to
- 14 inflict serious bodily injury, I'm not sure it
- 15 violates 28 USC Section 1959 of the VICAR statute.
- 16 What VICAR prescribes instead, is racketeering
- 17 motivated -- and I'm going to quote the language of

- 18 the statute -- assaults -- it says assault, but a
- 19 plural on it -- assaults -- and here's the key
- 20 language -- resulting in -- that's the language I
- 21 think we need focus on -- resulting in serious bodily
- 22 injury. But also violates state or federal law. So
- 23 that's right out of the Section 1959(a).
- 24 Accordingly, if my concern is that the
- 25 Court concludes that the evidence presented in the

- 1 United States case-in-chief would not permit a
- 2 probably juror to infer that Julian Romero suffered
- 3 serious bodily injury, then the Court needs to enter
- 4 a judgment of acquittal on Count 8, which is Count 3
- 5 in our instructions.
- 6 Mr. Baca is charged with conspiring to
- 7 commit assault resulting in serious bodily injury in
- 8 violation of New Mexico law. But the details of New
- 9 Mexico's assault statute, I don't think determine the
- 10 elements of that offense. This is kind of an
- 11 interesting area, establishing that Mr. Baca violated
- 12 VICAR by conspiring to commit assault resulting in
- 13 serious bodily injury in violation of New Mexico law
- 14 requires the United States to prove that, one, Mr.
- 15 Baca's conduct constitutes generic conspiracy to

- 16 commit assault resulting in serious bodily injury,
- 17 and two, that Mr. Baca's conduct also violated New
- 18 Mexico law.
- 19 So it looks like the jury is ready. I'll
- 20 give you some cites maybe before you go to lunch or
- 21 after you get back from lunch, some cases that I'd
- 22 like for you to look at and comment on. But that's
- 23 the language I'm sort of hanging up on. It's out of
- 24 the federal statutes. So I'll give you some cites so
- 25 that you can can get a fuller sense of what I'm
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- 1 thinking. All rise ((The jury entered the
- 2 courtroom.)
- 3 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Acee, I'll
- 4 remind you're still under oath.
- 5 Mr. Lowry, if you wish to continue your
- 6 direct examination of Mr. Acee, you may do so at this
- 7 time
- 8 MR. LOWRY: Thank you, Your Honor, I do.
- 9 THE COURT: Mr. Lowry.
- 10 BY MR. LOWRY:
- 11 Q. Agent Acee, we left off talking about the
- 12 Julian Romero assault. And I just wanted to -- we

- 13 were talking about your conversation with Mr. Romero
- 14 your way home from visiting Old Main, and the things
- 15 you told Mr. Romero. You told Mr. Romero that it was
- 16 the younger guys that wanted to kill Mr. Romero.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And that essentially Mr. Baca intervened
- 19 and said I don't want him killed he can't be stabbed.
- 20 If anything happens to him you could beat him up but
- 21 that's it?
- 22 A. That's not exactly what you said. You said
- 23 and I'll quote, he didn't want you to get hurt too
- 24 bad?
- 25 A. That sounds more like it, yes.

- 1 Q. So essentially Mr. Baca was calling off the
- 2 dogs so to speak?
- 3 A. Calling it down.
- 4 Q. Because, again, this generational
- 5 difference between the thinking, if you will?
- 6 A. I don't know what Mr. Baca's thinking was,
- 7 but that's how it was related to me by at least one
- 8 of the guys involved.
- 9 Q. And that was your understanding?
- 10 A. That was my understanding based on my
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- 11 conversation with him.
- 12 Q. Right. Now, I'm just more than idly
- 13 curious, but when Mr. Urquizo was here, he testified
- 14 that Mr. Baca ordered Mr. Romero to be killed?
- 15 A. Did he?
- 16 Q. Yes.
- 17 A. Okay. I thought it was someone else that
- 18 said that. "Baby G", Jonathan Gomez.
- 19 Q. Well, bear with me for a second. May I
- 20 approach, Your Honor?
- 21 THE COURT: You may.
- 22 A. Do you want me to read beyond the first
- 23 page?
- Q. If you care to. I just want you to be
- 25 comfortable with the testimony?

- 1 A. Okay, sir.
- Q. So did I understand his testimony to to
- 3 Court and jury correctly that when Mr. Urquizo
- 4 testified he said that he wanted -- that Mr. Baca had
- 5 ordered Julian Romero to be killed?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. But that's not what you understood?

- 8 And in that that you just had me Α.
- 9 review, it looks like he's saying either misstated it
- 10 or we miss recorded it -- recorded it in our report.
- 11 And that's what I was just getting ready to 0.
- 12 show you, your report of one of your interviews with
- 13 him, this would be on March 6, so this would you have
- 14 gone to visit Mr. Urquizo on the 24, he says I need
- 15 an attorney, and then that precipitated this initial
- 16 debrief.
- 17 Α. That time line sounds correct.
- 18 Q. May I approach, Your Honor?
- 19 THE COURT: You may.
- 20 Α. Yes, sir.
- 21 0. And this is where in his trial testimony he
- 22 said he tried to blame you on, my understanding was
- 23 he was trying blame you on sloppy report writing if
- 24 you will?
- 25 Α. No, that's not what I read.

- 1 Q. Okay what did you read?
- 2 Α. That either he made a mistake or we got the
- 3 names wrong.
- 4 Right. And -- but he certainly said in his Q.
- 5 trial testimony that Mr. Baca wanted to murder Mr.

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- 6 Romero.
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And that's not what he told you on March 6,
- 9 2017?
- 10 A. No, I don't believe that's what he told me.
- 11 Q. In fact, he told you the exact opens told
- 12 you the story, the same version of events that you
- 13 told Mr. Romero?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Was United States going to do anything to
- 16 correct Mr. Urquizo's testimony that Mr. Baca wanted
- 17 Mr. Romero dead?
- 18 A. I don't know.
- 19 Q. Mr. Urquizo, it's fair to say this report
- 20 also, he makes a comment in your report as you
- 21 reported it. I want to move on from the Julian
- 22 Romero thing and actually this is going to be while
- 23 we're on Mr. Urquizo I want to clean this up, but Mr.
- 24 Urquizo had informed you that when he initially got
- 25 to the Southern facility here in Las Cruces, that he 153
- 1 was communicating with Timothy Martinez and who was
- 2 the Mario Rodriguez and they were communicating by